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INFO RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY 0024
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RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1286
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/COMUSFK SEOUL KOR PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
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RUEHUL/USDAO SEOUL KOR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 003109

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/09/2016
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [MARR](#) [PBTS](#) [KS](#)
SUBJECT: MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM ON LEBANON

REF: A. SECSTATE 148157
[1](#)B. SEOUL 03062
[1](#)C. SEOUL 03104

Classified By: DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION WILLIAM A. STANTON. REASONS: 1.
4 (b/d)

[1](#)1. (C) This message is in response to reftel A.

[1](#)2. (C) During separate meetings on September 6 with the Ambassador, South Korean Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MOFAT) Yu Myung-hwan and Minister of National Defense (MND) Yoon Kwang-ung both explained that the ROKG would dispatch an assessment team to Lebanon this month to assess the security situation on the ground and consult with appropriate Lebanese government ministries before deciding how to best contribute to the UNIFIL peacekeeping effort. Currently, MND is planning to contribute a 30-40 person medical team, however Defense Minister Yoon told the Ambassador that after hearing from the assessment team the South Korean government would have a "comprehensive discussion" that would include the possibility of dispatching ground forces to Lebanon (reftel C).

[1](#)3. (C) On September 8, MOFAT UN Division Director Oh Young Joo confirmed to POLOFF that a three-person ROK assessment team, consisting of officials from MOFAT, MND, and the Blue House would travel to Lebanon in late September.
VERSHBOW